

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) Plastic nut to be fitted to a component (1) having an aperture (2), which includes a nut piece (11) adapted for insertion into the aperture (2) and which has an insertion hole (22) that serves to hold a screw (28), a flange (3) to bear on one side (4) of the component (1), wherein the flange (3) has a through hole (10) for the screw (28), an outer edge, a surface facing the component, and a surface facing away from the component, a separate sealing washer (6) integrally provided on a side of the flange (3) facing the component (1), and snap-action hooks (12, 13) to bear on an opposite side (14) of the component (1) and which, after insertion, spread out as the screw (28) is tightened in the insertion hole (22) in the plastic nut to secure the plastic nut to the component (1), characterized in that the sealing washer (6) includes a shoulder and a collar and encloses the flange (3) with the shoulder (7) of the sealing washer embracing the outer edge of the flange (3) and the collar (9) of the sealing washer projecting into the through hole (10), wherein ~~Plastic nut according to Claim 1, characterized in that the~~ shoulder (7) of the sealing washer is beveled on an inner side in such a way that its thickness decreases in the direction away from the ~~the~~ nut piece (11).

3. (Previously Presented) Plastic nut according to Claim 2, characterized in that the outer edge (16) of the flange (3) is beveled in accordance with the bevel of the shoulder (7).

4. (Currently Amended) Plastic nut to be fitted to a component (1) having an aperture (2), which includes a nut piece (11) adapted for insertion into the aperture (2) and which has an insertion hole (22) that serves to hold a screw (28), a flange (3) to bear on one side (4) of the component (1), wherein the flange (3) has a through hole (10) for the screw (28), an outer edge, a surface facing the component, and a surface facing away from the component, a separate sealing washer (6) integrally provided on a side of the flange (3) facing the component (1), and snap-action hooks (12, 13) to bear on an opposite side (14) of the component (1) and which, after insertion, spread out as the screw (28) is tightened in the insertion hole (22) in the plastic nut to secure the plastic nut to the component (1), characterized in that the sealing washer (6) includes a shoulder and a collar and encloses the flange (3) with the shoulder (7) of the sealing washer embracing the outer edge of the flange (3) and the collar (9) of the sealing washer projecting into the through hole (10), wherein ~~Plastic nut according to Claim 1, characterized in that the~~ shoulder (7) of the sealing washer merges into a sealing lip (17) oriented towards the nut piece (11).

5. (Currently Amended) Plastic nut according to Claim ~~[[1]]~~3, characterized in that the sealing washer (6) merges from a side facing away from the flange (3) into a ring (18) that projects into the aperture (2).

6. (Canceled)

7. (Currently Amended) Plastic nut according to Claim [[1]]2, characterized in that the collar (9) projects beyond the flange (3) with an extension (19).

8. (Currently Amended) Plastic nut to be fitted to a component (1) having an aperture (2), which includes a nut piece (11) adapted for insertion into the aperture (2) and which has an insertion hole (22) that serves to hold a screw (28), a flange (3) to bear on one side (4) of the component (1), wherein the flange (3) has a through hole (10) for the screw (28), an outer edge, a surface facing the component, and a surface facing away from the component, a separate sealing washer (6) integrally provided on a side of the flange (3) facing the component (1), and snap-action hooks (12, 13) to bear on an opposite side (14) of the component (1) and which, after insertion, spread out as the screw (28) is tightened in the insertion hole (22) in the plastic nut to secure the plastic nut to the component (1), characterized in that the sealing washer (6) includes a shoulder and a collar and encloses the flange (3) with the shoulder (7) of the sealing washer embracing the outer edge of the flange (3) and the collar (9) of the sealing washer projecting into the through hole (10), wherein Plastic nut according to Claim 1, characterized in that a region of the flange (3) that is covered by the sealing washer (6) and faces the component (1) and is provided with protrusions (21).

9. (Currently Amended) Plastic nut according to Claim [[1]]2, characterized in that the sealing washer (6) comprises a compressible spacer (5) that connects the flange (3) and the nut piece (11) in one piece.

10. (Currently Amended) Plastic nut according to Claim [[1]]2, characterized in that the insertion hole (22) for the screw (28) is formed as a blind hole.

11. (Currently Amended) Plastic nut according to Claim [[1]]2, characterized by single-piece formation by injection moulding with a sealing washer (6) injected onto the flange (3).

12. (New) Plastic nut according to Claim 4, characterized in that the sealing washer (6) merges from a side facing away from the flange (3) into a ring (18) that projects into the aperture (2).

13. (New) Plastic nut according to Claim 4, characterized in that the collar (9) projects beyond the flange (3) with an extension (19).

14. (New) Plastic nut according to Claim 4, characterized in that the sealing washer (6) comprises a compressible spacer (5) that connects the flange (3) and the nut piece (11) in one piece.

15. (New) Plastic nut according to Claim 4, characterized in that the insertion hole (22) for the screw (28) is formed as a blind hole.

16. (New) Plastic nut according to Claim 4, characterized by single-piece formation by injection moulding with a sealing washer (6) injected onto the flange (3).

17. (New) Plastic nut according to Claim 8, characterized in that the sealing washer (6) merges from a side facing away from the flange (3) into a ring (18) that projects into the aperture (2).

18. (New) Plastic nut according to Claim 17, characterized in that the collar (9) projects beyond the flange (3) with an extension (19).

19. (New) Plastic nut according to Claim 18, characterized in that the sealing washer (6) comprises a compressible spacer (5) that connects the flange (3) and the nut piece (11) in one piece.

20. (New) Plastic nut according to Claim 19, characterized in that the insertion hole (22) for the screw (28) is formed as a blind hole.

21. (New) Plastic nut according to Claim 20, characterized by single-piece formation by injection moulding with a sealing washer (6) injected onto the flange (3).

22. (New) Plastic nut to be fitted to a component (1) having an aperture (2), which includes a nut piece (11) adapted for insertion into the aperture (2) and which has an insertion hole (22) that serves to hold a screw (28), a flange (3) facing one side (4) of the component (1), wherein the flange (3) has a through hole (10) for the screw (28), a separate sealing washer (6) integrally provided on the side of the flange (3) facing the component (1), and snap-action hooks (12, 13) to bear on an opposite side (14) of the component (1) and which, after insertion, spread out as the screw (28) is tightened in the insertion hole (22) in the plastic nut to secure the plastic nut to the component (1), characterized in that the sealing washer (6) encloses the flange (3) completely on both sides of the flange (3) having at its outer edge a shoulder (7), and its inner rim a collar (9) projecting into the through hole (10), whereby a region of the flange (3), which

Application. No.: 10/633,591
Reply to Office Action of May 13, 2005

faces the component (1), is provided with protrusions (21) and the outer rim of the shoulder (7) merges into a sealing lip (17) oriented towards the nut piece (11).